

## REPLACE YOUR THIRSTY LAWN WITH



## CALIFORNIA NATIVES

### WHY NATIVES?

- California has a very unique flora
- Plants and pollinators interdependent
- Ecological - use less chemicals
- Economical - use less water
- Smart gardening - use less labor

## SANTA MONICA DEMONSTRATION “garden/garden”



Conventional Landscaping

California Natives



## CONVENTIONAL GARDEN ESTABLISHED



## CALIFORNIA NATIVE GARDEN ESTABLISHED



### "garden/garden" Comparison

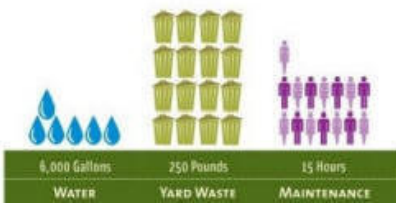
- 1/10 of the water
- 1/4 of the maintenance labor
- 3/5 of the green waste
- Increased habitat
- Lowered pollution

To view online:

[http://www.smgov.net/Departments/OSE/Categories/  
Landscape/Demonstration\\_Gardens.aspx](http://www.smgov.net/Departments/OSE/Categories/Landscape/Demonstration_Gardens.aspx)

## Annual Comparison

### Sustainable Landscape



### Traditional Landscape



Photo and Design: Stephanie Morris





Design: Annaloy Nickum Photo: Deva Luna



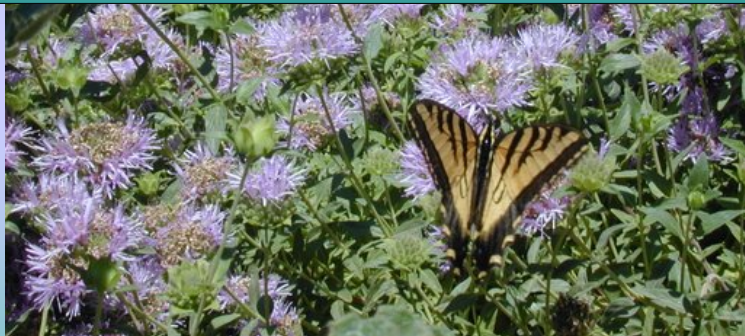
Photo: Laura Schaub



Design: Annaloy Nickum Photo: Deva Luna



## Support habitat





## Birds, bees and butterflies, oh my!

- No pesticides or herbicides
- Plant natives that bloom at different times
- Some evergreen, some deciduous
- Don't prune off seeds and berries
- Provide shelter and places to raise young
- Provide water



**Pipevine (Aristolochia) &  
Pipevine Swallowtail**



Monarch caterpillar on Showy Milkweed



Just add water to attract birds!



## **“LAWN” SUBSTITUTES**



**Herbs, Groundcovers, Meadows**



**MIXED HERB LAWN**



## “NO MOW” GRASSES

- Seasonal changes
- Flowers sway in the breeze
- Can be weed whacked once or twice a year
- Provide habitat for birds, butterflies
- Can be interplanted with wildflowers



Design: Agi Kehoe Photo: Deva Luna

## Wildflowers in a meadow





Photo: Deva Luna

## RED FESCUE

*Festuca rubra*



Design: Middlebrook Gardens Photo: Stephanie Morris

## WESTERN FESCUE

*Festuca occidentalis*



Design: Middlebrook Gardens Photo: Deva Luna

## CALIFORNIA FESCUE

Dry creek in a parking strip



## DUNE SEDGE

*Carex pansa*

Design: Agi Kehoe

Installation: EarthCare Landscaping





**NATIVE SOD NOW AVAILABLE**



**Chaparral, Grassland, and Desert Plants**



**Sun, dry or occasional deep watering**







## MANZANITA

*Arctostaphylos 'Dr. Hurd'*



## Cleveland Sage (with Monkey Flower)

*Salvia clevelandii*



## SAGE

*Salvia 'Dara's Choice'*



## DWARF COYOTE BUSH

*Baccharis pillularis 'Twin Peaks'*









## WOOLY BLUE CURLS

*Trichostema lanatum*



## CALIFORNIA FUCHSIA

*Epilobium 'Select Mattole'*



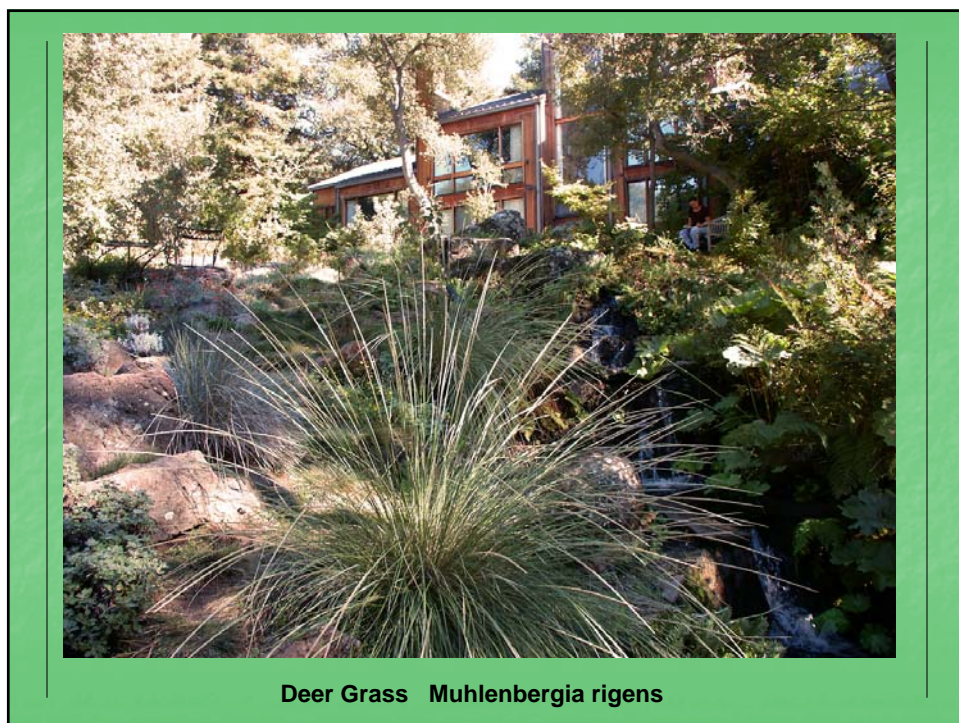
**CEANOTHUS 'CONCHA'**



**ROSY BUCKWHEAT**

*Eriogonum grande var. rubescens*









**Monkey Flower**  
***Mimulus aurantiacus* 'Valentine'**



**Western Redbud and Ceanothus**  
**in a garden setting**



**Yarrow**  
*Achillea millefolium* 'Pink Island Form'



**Poppy, Penstemon & Buckwheat**






## Riparian and Coastal Plants



**Part sun, watered regularly**  
**Afternoon shade, moderate water**

### Sandhill Sagebrush

*Artemisia pynocphylla* 'David's Choice'

Design: Sherri Osaka   Installation: EarthCare Landscaping



**Idaho Fescue**  
***Festuca idahoensis***



Design: Sherri Osaka Photo: Deva Luna

**Beach Strawberry** *Fragaria chiloensis*





**Vine Maple**  
*Acer circinatum*



Design & Photo: Sherri Osaka

**California Lilac**  
*Ceanothus hearstiorum*



## Cedros Island Verbena

*Verbena lilacina* 'De La Mina'



Photo: Deva Luna

## Beach Aster

*Erigeron glaucus* 'Wayne Roderick'





# Oak Woodland

Shade or part shade, dry or occasional deep watering



Pacific Coast Hybrid Iris



Design: Fran Adams Photo: Deva Luna

**Arctostaphylos uva-ursi - Manzanita**  
**Heuchera 'Old La Rochette - Alum Root**



**COYOTE MINT**  
**Monarda villosa**





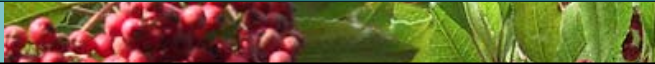
**Hummingbird Sage**  
***Salvia spathacea***



**California Coffeeberry**  
***Rhamnus californica* 'Eve Case'**



**Toyon**  
***Heteromeles arbutifolia***



**California Grape**  
***Vitis californica* 'Roger's Red'**



## Redwood Forest



Shade, watered regularly



Wild Ginger  
*Asarum caudatum*



**Western Bleeding Heart**  
***Dicentra formosa***



**Western Columbine**  
***Aquilegia formosa***





**Flowering Currant**  
***Ribes sanguineum***



**Western Azalea**  
***Rhododendron occidentale***



**Western Sword Fern**  
***Polystichum munitum***



**Wax Myrtle**  
***Myrica californica***





**Spicebush**  
***Calycanthus occidentalis***

## HOW TO



## REMOVE YOUR LAWN

## THIRSTY LAWN -- BEFORE



## AFTER: *NATURAL FRONT YARDS*





## SUSTAINABLE GUIDELINES

Natural processes will aide you

- Prohibit photosynthesis
- Keep materials on site
- Be persistent & patient
- Keeping old lawn creates compost



**Scalped lawn**



**Cut back the edges near hardscape  
Make a mound**

## **SMOTHER**

- **Newspaper (5 layers)**
  - Avoid glossy sections
  - Black & white, colored okay
  - Dampen to avoid blowing away, cover w/mulch
- **Cardboard, overlapped**
- **Compost**
- **Natural fiber carpet**
- **Mulch**



## IF IT MUST BE REMOVED

- For small areas, use pick & shovel
- Rent a sod cutter for high grade or noxious weeds
- Remove to landfill or other location to dry out thoroughly
- Two passes may be necessary
- Then rototill lightly, and rake out the Bermuda Grass
- Follow up by spot weeding anything that re-sprouts

## Dig it out by hand



## Rent a Sod Cutter



## SHEET COMPOSTING

- Similar to Lasagna Gardening
- Plant directly into layers of organic matter
  - Annual weeds, smashed down
  - Newspapers
  - Thick arbor chips
  - Thin layer of purchased mulch
- Make a planting pocket of good soil





**Planting “pocket” in mulch**



**Three kinds of mulch**



**Drip irrigation**



**Dry creek rough grading**





**Dry creek and two colors of mulch**

## **REBATES**

Santa Clara Valley Water District offers rebates to replace your lawn with appropriate plants, drip irrigation and permeable surfaces.

\$ .75/sft up to \$2,000, material costs reimbursed

Commercial properties up to \$20,000

Palo Alto and Morgan Hill will match funds

[www.valleywater.org](http://www.valleywater.org)

Remember “garden / garden”?



The choice is yours!

## RESOURCES

[www.goingnativegardentour.org](http://www.goingnativegardentour.org)

**Going Native Garden Tour – April**

[www.cnps.org](http://www.cnps.org)

**California Native Plant Society**

[www.yerbabuenanursery.com](http://www.yerbabuenanursery.com)

**Yerba Buena Demonstration Garden**

[www.naturalfrontyards.com](http://www.naturalfrontyards.com)

**Inexpensive professional lawn replacement**

[www.landscapestandards.com](http://www.landscapestandards.com)

**A wiki site for Sustainable Landscaping with lists of professionals and pictures**



